

Established in 1889, the Ontario Association of Architects (OAA) is the self-regulating body for the province's architecture profession. It governs the practice of architecture and administers the Architects Act in order to serve and protect the public interest.

Kevin Griffiths, Chair
Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes Designations
1200 Montreal Road
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0R6

December 16, 2022

Re: Public review on proposed changes to the 2020 National Model Codes – Fall 2022

Kevin,

The [Ontario Association of Architects](#) (OAA) continues to monitor code changes as the Ontario Building Code harmonizes with the National Codes. In this time of great reform, there is a unique opportunity for both codes to ensure energy efficiency is advanced to meet various provincial and national climate action objectives.

The OAA strongly urges the government to implement an energy step protocol in the National Codes. This enshrinement would ensure application and acceptance of these standards across jurisdictions, and would help Canada advance climate action in a substantive way.

According to the Canada Green Building Council (CaGBC), approximately 30% of greenhouse gas emissions come from the built environments in which Canadians live, work, and play. Objective, tiered performance metrics help everyone understand energy use in buildings. Many OAA members have opined that municipal green standards are their single most effective tool to pitch climate considerations to their clients.

In response to the consultation, "Public review on proposed changes to the 2020 National Model Codes – Fall 2022," the OAA submits the following documents for your consideration:

1. The Association's review of the proposed code changes for the National Building Code, National Plumbing Code, National Fire Code, and National Energy Code (see attachment)
2. [The OAA's covering letter and submission to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing \(MMAH\) Winter 2022 Code Consultation](#). (see attachment)
3. An email response from the MMAH to the OAA's submission, indicating concerns about energy efficiency should be brought to the National Research Council (NRC).

OAA staff and volunteers spent many hours on the attached submission, and respectfully request it be examined in response to the current National Code Consultation.

The OAA enjoys a longstanding, collaborative relationship with government, and the Association and its members stand ready to work alongside government to ensure the code harmonization results in transformative changes to energy efficiency requirements in buildings. Built environments are a key contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and, with various changes to the prevailing codes, could help to better mitigate further environmental degradation.

Sincerely,



Susan Speigel, Architect
OAA, FRAIC
President

cc: The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne - Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry
The Honourable Steven Guilbeault - Minister of Environment and Climate Change
The Honourable Ahmed Hussen - Minister of Housing and Diversity and Inclusion
Mansoor Mahmood - Director, Building and Development Branch, MMAH
James Ross - Manager (Acting) Building Code Policy Development Unit, MMAH

Table 1: POTENTIAL CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL BUILDING CODE 2020:

National Building Code 2020	Ranking	Status	Comments - Ontario Association of Architects
Division B			
Part 1 - General			
1.3.1.2. Applicable Editions			
1804 - Updates to Referenced Documents	6	Not Reviewed	
Part 3 - Fire Protection, Occupant Safety and Accessibility			
3.2.4.2. Continuity of Fire Alarm System			
1698 - Addition of a Cross-reference to Firestopping Provisions for Permitted Service Penetrations	1	I support this proposed change as is.	
3.2.4.22. Voice Communication Systems for High Buildings			
1749 - Voice Communication Systems - Referenced Standards on Intelligibility	1	I support this proposed change as is.	
3.3.1.9. Corridors			
1711 - "Clear Width" versus "Unobstructed Width"	1	I support this proposed change as is.	
3.3.1.19. Tactile Walking Surface Indicators			
1571 - Tactile Direction Indicators Footnote1	1	I support this proposed change as is.	
3.3.2. Assembly Occupancy			
1752 - Requirements for Seats, Aisles and Guards for Assembly Occupancies	1	I support this proposed change as is.	

Table 1: POTENTIAL CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL BUILDING CODE 2020:

National Building Code 2020

3.3.2.4. Fixed Seats
1711 - "Clear Width" versus "Unobstructed Width"
3.4.6.6. Guards
361 - Size Limit for Open Stringers
3.7.2.2. Water Closets
1750 - Clarification on Gendered Washrooms
3.8.2.10. Signs and Indicators
1571 - Tactile Direction Indicators Footnote1
3.8.3.9. Accessible Signs
1571 - Tactile Direction Indicators Footnote1

Ranking	Status	Comments - Ontario Association of Architects
1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1	I support this proposed change as is.	

Table 1: POTENTIAL CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL BUILDING CODE 2020:

National Building Code 2020

	Ranking	Status	Comments - Ontario Association of Architects
Part 5 - Environmental Separation			
5.5.1.2. Vapour Barrier Properties and Installation			
1426 - Replacement of an Outdated CGSB Standard	1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1758 - Vapour Barrier Materials and Installation	2	I support this proposed change as is with comment(s).	A more in-depth explanation and better tools for analysis is useful but I wonder if it will be heeded for small Part 3 projects or renovations that have limited scope and budget. There might be instances where 'rule of thumb' is warranted but with further clarification rather than just inside or outside..
5.9.1.1. Compliance with Applicable Standards			
1426 - Replacement of an Outdated CGSB Standard	1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1483 - Introduction of a New Standard on Asphalt Core Boards	1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1703 - Gypsum Board Application on Flat Wall Insulating Concrete Form Units	1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1759 - Deletion of an Outdated CAN/CGSB Standard	1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1760 - Deletion of an Outdated CAN/CGSB Standard	1	I support this proposed change as is.	
5.9.2. Windows, Doors and Skylights			
1756 - Clarifying Requirements for Fenestration Assemblies	1	I support this proposed change as is.	

Table 1: POTENTIAL CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL BUILDING CODE 2020:

National Building Code 2020

5.9.2.3. Structural and Environmental Loads, Air Leakage and Water Penetration

[1757 - Installation of High Exposure Fenestration](#)

5.9.3. Other Fenestration Assemblies

[1756 - Clarifying Requirements for Fenestration Assemblies](#)

5.9.4. Exterior Insulation Finish Systems

[1755 - EIFS Installation Requirements](#)

Part 9 - Housing and Small Buildings

9.5.4.1. Hallway Width

[1711 - "Clear Width" versus "Unobstructed Width"](#)

9.9.5.2. Occupancies in Corridors

[1711 - "Clear Width" versus "Unobstructed Width"](#)

9.10.1.3. Items under Part 3 Jurisdiction

[1679 - Clarification of Fire-protection Requirements for Self-service Storage Buildings](#)

Ranking	Status	Comments - Ontario Association of Architects
1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1	I support this proposed change as is.	

Table 1: POTENTIAL CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL BUILDING CODE 2020:

National Building Code 2020

9.23.10.1. Stud Size and Spacing
1677 - Clarification of 38 mm x 140 mm Stud Usage
9.36.2.4. Calculation of Effective Thermal Resistance of Assemblies
1657 - Masonry Terminology used in Table A-9.36.2.4.(1)-D
9.36.2.5. Continuity of Insulation
1746 - Harmonizing Masonry Terminology
9.36.2.8. Thermal Characteristics of Building Assemblies Below-Grade or in Contact with the Ground
1746 - Harmonizing Masonry Terminology

Ranking	Status	Comments - Ontario Association of Architects
1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1	I support this proposed change as is.	

Table 2: POTENTIAL CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL FIRE CODE 2020:

National Fire Code 2020

Division B
Part 1 - General
1.3.1.2. Applicable Editions
1804 - Updates to Referenced Documents
Part 2 - Building and Occupant Fire Safety
2.7.1.4. Signs
1660 - Soft Conversion - Stroke Width Requirement for Signs
2.7.1.5. Nonfixed Seating
1711 - "Clear Width" versus "Unobstructed Width"
1751 - Requirements for Non-fixed Seating in Assembly Occupancies
Part 4 - Flammable and Combustible Liquids
4.3.5.2. Location of Vent Pipe Outlets
1683 - Termination of the Emergency Vents of Secondary Containments in Double-walled Storage Tanks
4.3.11.3. Installation
1691 - Vent Pipe Outlets for Underground Storage Tanks

Ranking	Status	Comments - Ontario Association of Architects
6	Not Reviewed	
1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1	I support this proposed change as is.	
6	Not Reviewed	
6	Not Reviewed	

Table 3: POTENTIAL CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL PLUMBING CODE 2020:

National Plumbing Code 2020

Division B
Part 1 - General
1.3.1.2. Applicable Editions
1804 - Updates to Referenced Documents
Part 2 - Plumbing Systems
2.2.6.10. Stainless Steel Pipe
1716 - Protection of Potable Water from Chemical Contamination
2.2.6.11. Stainless Steel Butt Weld Pipe Fittings
1716 - Protection of Potable Water from Chemical Contamination
2.2.6.12. Stainless Steel Pipe Flanges
1716 - Protection of Potable Water from Chemical Contamination
2.2.6.13. Stainless Steel Threaded Fittings
1716 - Protection of Potable Water from Chemical Contamination
2.2.6.14. Stainless Steel Tube
1716 - Protection of Potable Water from Chemical Contamination
2.2.7.1. Copper and Brass Pipe
1716 - Protection of Potable Water from Chemical Contamination
2.2.7.2. Brass or Bronze Pipe Flanges and Flanged Fittings
1716 - Protection of Potable Water from Chemical Contamination

Ranking	Status	Comments - Ontario Association of Architects
6	Not Reviewed	
6	Not Reviewed	
6	Not Reviewed	
6	Not Reviewed	
6	Not Reviewed	
6	Not Reviewed	
6	Not Reviewed	
6	Not Reviewed	

Table 3: POTENTIAL CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL PLUMBING CODE 2020:

National Plumbing Code 2020

2.2.7.3. Brass or Bronze Threaded Water Fittings
1716 - Protection of Potable Water from Chemical Contamination
2.2.7.4. Copper Tube
1716 - Protection of Potable Water from Chemical Contamination
2.2.7.6. Solder-Joint Water Fittings
1716 - Protection of Potable Water from Chemical Contamination
2.2.7.7. Flared-Joint Fittings for Copper Water Systems
1716 - Protection of Potable Water from Chemical Contamination
2.2.9. Jointing Materials
1716 - Protection of Potable Water from Chemical Contamination
2.2.10. Miscellaneous Materials
1716 - Protection of Potable Water from Chemical Contamination
2.6.1.7. Relief Valves
1371 - Relief Valves

Ranking	Status	Comments - Ontario Association of Architects
6	Not Reviewed	
6	Not Reviewed	
6	Not Reviewed	
6	Not Reviewed	
6	Not Reviewed	
6	Not Reviewed	
6	Not Reviewed	

Table 4: POTENTIAL CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL ENERGY CODE 2020:

National Energy Code 2020

Division A
Part 1 - Compliance
1.4.1.2. Defined Terms
1650 - Definition of "Installed Interior Lighting Power"
Division B
Part 1 - General
1.3.1.2. Applicable Editions
1804 - Updates to Referenced Documents
Part 4 - Lighting
4.2.4.1. Requirements
1662 - Programming of Exterior Lighting Controls
Part 5 - Heating, Ventilating and Air-conditioning Systems
5.1.1.4. Definitions
1671 - Definition of "System"
5.2.4.2. Type and Location of Dampers
1723 - Motorized Dampers
5.2.10.1. Energy Recovery Systems
1733 - Energy Recovery Systems

Ranking	Status	Comments - Ontario Association of Architects
1	I support this proposed change as is.	
6	Not Reviewed	
2	I support this proposed change as is with comment(s).	Further review on the impact of site safety is recommended.
2	I support this proposed change as is with comment(s).	For consideration, are passive systems defined, and would they fall under the definition of "systems".
1	I support this proposed change as is.	
1	I support this proposed change as is.	

Table 4: POTENTIAL CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL ENERGY CODE 2020:

National Energy Code 2020

Part 8 - Building Energy Performance Compliance Path
8.4.5.2. Boiler
1725 - Part-Load Performance Characteristics
8.4.5.3. Furnace
1725 - Part-Load Performance Characteristics

Ranking	Status	Comments - Ontario Association of Architects
5	I have reviewed this proposed change and I have no opinion on it.	
5	I have reviewed this proposed change and I have no opinion on it.	

Established in 1889, the Ontario Association of Architects (OAA) is the self-regulating body for the province's architecture profession. It governs the practice of architecture and administers the Architects Act in order to serve and protect the public interest.

James Ross, Manager Building Code Policy Development Unit
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
College Park, 16th Floor
777 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2J3

April 14, 2022

Re: Building Code Consultation – Winter 2022 (Part 2)

James,

The Ontario Association of Architects (OAA) is continuing to watch closely as the harmonization of the Ontario Building Code (OBC) and the National Construction Codes (NCC) takes place.

In addition to the feedback already provided on March 11, 2022, the Association is particularly concerned that the current proposed changes for energy efficiency appear to move Ontario's standards backward from the current requirements in SB-10 and SB-12 to a lesser standard (i.e. Tier 3 from section 9.36 of the NCC and Tier 1 from the NECB). While the Ministry contends energy efficiency requirements will be more stringent under the new regime, our own assessments do not come to the same conclusion.

We strongly caution that harmonization must not, in any way, reduce energy efficiency requirements in Ontario. As you are well aware, the world is facing a climate emergency. Based on estimates from various sources, approximately one-third of greenhouse gas emissions come from the built environments in which Canadians live, work, and play. Improving the energy efficiency of our buildings and accelerating our progress toward net zero carbon is critical if Ontario intends to meet its stated greenhouse gas reduction targets.

As such, the OAA encourages the implementation of energy step codes, both in the OBC and NCC. The Association has long supported objective targets based on Total Energy Use Intensity (TEUI) for a wide range of building occupancies as a best practice, which is demonstrated by the OAA's own [TEUI Calculator tool](#). Objective, tiered performance metrics help everyone understand energy use in buildings and can help position Ontario to achieve its 2030 targets. Further, they reduce red-tape, are standards-agnostic, and improve the efficiency of designers by allowing use of a wide range of standards to arrive at the EUl goals and eliminating the need for modelling against a reference building to prove a 'better than' scenario. As well, the inclusion of tiers in the OBC would provide a framework to move toward net zero standards by 2030, something that does not otherwise seem possible in the next eight years.

In British Columbia, the BC Energy Step Code is an optional compliance path in the BC Building Code that local governments may use to incentivize or require a level of energy efficiency in new construction that goes beyond the minimum requirements. Builders may voluntarily use the BC Energy Step Code as a new compliance path for meeting the energy-efficiency requirements of the BC Building Code. As well, municipalities can require higher tiers for certain building types. Currently, more than

80 municipalities in BC have submitted their initial notification, indicating to the BC government that they have started consulting on the BC Energy Step Code. This Energy Step Code has adopted an absolute approach and the OAA supports a similar adoption.

Within Ontario, the City of Toronto took a leadership role by implementing its Toronto Green Standard (TGS) in 2010. In this case, all newly constructed Part 3 buildings are required to meet Step 1 of the current version of the TGS, and project proponents can opt to go beyond Step 1 in exchange for various development incentives. On the verge of implementing Version 4 of the TGS, the City of Toronto is leveraging its step code to go after more aggressive carbon reduction targets to achieve their emissions reduction goals.

Any step code the provincial government introduces should be extended to existing Part 3 buildings undergoing significant renovations. In these cases, the buildings should be required to achieve Step 1 of the code in order to proceed with the renovations.

Based on estimates from the current version 3 of the TGS, it will result in greenhouse gas emission reductions of 30.6 megatons by 2050, equivalent to taking 250,000 cars off the road each year. Moreover, it contributes to the TransformTO's citywide emissions reductions target of net zero by 2040.

As of 2021, more than 2500 new developments in Toronto have been required to meet Tier 1 and 150 projects have participated in the TGS Development Charges Refund Program for certified high-performance buildings. Other municipalities in Ontario, such as Whitby and Barrie, have also implemented, or are considering implementing, energy step codes.

The OAA urges government to consider the implications of replacing SB-10 and SB-12 as it is currently proposed. If passed, this will create:

- significant confusion in the marketplace due to the proposed complexity and unfamiliarity in correlating SB-10 and SB-12 with matching tiers in the proposed codes;
- chaos among designers (architects, Licensed Technologists OAA, engineers, and BCIN holders) unfamiliar with these approaches to Tiered Codes;
- conflicts at the point of application for permits, where there are significant differences between buildings and approaches to the 'Energy Conservation Points' opted for which in many cases will be lower than values required in SB-10 and SB-12; and
- significant blowback among all levels of designers and builders in the AEC sector as there has not been stakeholder buy-in with this "one-and-done" approach.

If harmonization efforts require MMAH to adopt the standards in the 2020 NECB and NBC, then the OAA recommends the government pursue adoption of one or more of the following options:

- the *entire* framework of the proposed National Step Codes, rather than partial adoption that can be subject to future additions, revisions, and improvements within the limited time frame before 2030; and/or,
- Ensure that in no case can NBC/NECB Tiers allow a lower level of performance than any table noted in SB-10 or SB-12, and/or
- Adoption of NBC/NECB with Absolute Target References (i.e. TEUI) for a Range of Building Occupancies; and/or,
- predicted CO_{2e} emissions in MTCO_{2e} units (GHGI); and/or,
- a standards-agnostic approach to energy modelling on all performance paths (that is, eliminate references to EnerGuide modelling); and/or
- mandatory airtightness testing/validation—without this, there is no way of validating if standards are being complied with, and the small cost of testing will have notable public benefits in terms of building quality, performance, and durability.

The OAA requests to meet with you to discuss the concerns outlined above; in particular, we would like to demonstrate how the proposed changes will set Ontario backward in terms of energy efficiency. The Association strongly urges government to only implement changes that will help improve energy efficiency standards across the province.

The OAA enjoys a longstanding, collaborative relationship with the government, and looks forward to continued work alongside the MMAH to promote and protect the public interest.

Sincerely,



Susan Speigel, Architect
OAA, FRAIC
President

SECTION 9.36. ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- It has been proposed that SB-12 is being replaced by Section 9.36. Energy Efficiency of the National Building Code (NBC).
- Please also see Ontario's Building Code's Part 12 for consequential changes
- Below is the entire Section 9.36 of the National Building Code including intended changes introduced through the 2020 National Building Code.
- Where the 2015 NBC Section 9.36 is changed, related National Proposed Change Forms (PCFs) are provided via hyperlinks. Any further proposed changes to the PCFs (Ontario specific) are shown in blue. These proposed modifications to the PCFs are below:
 - Tier 3 of the NBC Tier System is proposed to be selected, and all other tiers excluded,
 - For prescriptive approaches, 20 points is assigned for the proposed Tier 3,
 - In the cases of performance method, air tightness values for reference and proposed houses are set as equal, if the air tightness test is not carried out.
- In addition, any changes introduced to 9.36 through 2020 NECB edition is identified by a light grey shaded (background) row in the table and the related National Proposed Change Forms (PCF) are attached.
- When reviewing PCFs, please scroll down and review the latest version of the change which is written under "Revised Proposed Change Following Public Review".
- The current version of the Ontario Building Code already contains Sections 9.36 to 9.40. The adoption of the National Building Code's Section 9.36 will require renumbering of some Sections in Part 9.
- The current Supplementary Standard SB-12 is available for comparison by clicking [here](#).

Proposed Ontario Code Sentence Number	Proposed Ontario Code Article/ Title	Proposed Ontario Code Provision	Link to the National PCF(s)
9.36.1. General			
9.36.1.1.(1)	9.36.1.1. Scope	<u>(1) This Section is concerned with the energy used by buildings as a result of (a) the design and construction of the building envelope, and (b) the design and construction or specification of systems and equipment for (i) heating, ventilating or air-conditioning, and (ii) service water heating.</u>	N/A
9.36.1.2.(1)	9.36.1.2. Definitions	<u>(1) For the purpose of this Section, the term "common space" shall mean all spaces required to be conditioned spaces, in accordance with the requirements of the Code that are not within a suite but shall not include crawl spaces and vertical service spaces.</u>	N/A
9.36.1.2.(2)	9.36.1.2. Definitions	<u>(2) For the purpose of this Section, the term "overall thermal transmittance," or U-value, shall mean the rate, in W/(m²×K), at which heat is transferred through a building assembly that is subject to temperature differences.</u>	N/A
9.36.1.2.(3)	9.36.1.2. Definitions	<u>(3) For the purpose of this Section, the term "effective thermal resistance," or RSI value, shall mean the inverse of the overall thermal transmittance of an assembly, in (m²×K)/W.</u>	N/A
9.36.1.2.(4)	9.36.1.2. Definitions	<u>(4) For the purpose of this Section, the term "fenestration" shall mean all building envelope assemblies, including their frames, that transfer visible light, such as windows, clerestories, skylights, translucent wall panels, glass block assemblies, transoms, sidelights, sliding, overhead or swinging glass doors, and glazed inserts in doors, etc.</u>	N/A
9.36.1.2.(5)	9.36.1.2. Definitions	<u>(5) For the purpose of this Section, the term "annual energy consumption" shall mean the annual sum of service water heating and space-conditioning energy consumption of the proposed house design, as calculated in accordance with Article 9.36.5.4. or 9.36.7.3. as applicable.</u>	https://www.dropbox.com/s/lkss64g6rfelrvi/nbc15_dib_09.36.01.03_001617.pdf?dl=0
9.36.1.2.(6)	9.36.1.2. Definitions	<u>(6) For the purpose of this Section, the term "house energy target" shall mean the annual energy consumption of the reference house, as calculated in accordance with Article 9.36.5.4. or 9.36.7.3. as applicable.</u>	https://www.dropbox.com/s/lkss64g6rfelrvi/nbc15_dib_09.36.01.03_001617.pdf?dl=0
9.36.1.2.(7)	9.36.1.2. Definitions	<u>(7) For the purpose of this Section, the term "principal ventilation rate" shall mean the normal operating exhaust capacity of the principal ventilation fan as required by Article 9.32.3.3.</u>	https://www.dropbox.com/s/lkss64g6rfelrvi/nbc15_dib_09.36.01.03_001617.pdf?dl=0
9.36.1.2.(8)	9.36.1.2. Definitions	<u>(8) For the purpose of this Section, the term "volume of conditioned space" shall refer to the volume measured at the interior surfaces of exterior walls, ceilings and floors of a house or building.</u>	https://www.dropbox.com/s/lkss64g6rfelrvi/nbc15_dib_09.36.01.03_001617.pdf?dl=0

Rank	Status	Comments - Ontario Association of Architects
4	I do not support this proposed change for the reason(s) stated to the right.	Refer to Ontario Association of Architects cover letter that accompanies this table.
4	I do not support this proposed change for the reason(s) stated to the right.	Refer to Ontario Association of Architects cover letter that accompanies this table.
4	I do not support this proposed change for the reason(s) stated to the right.	Refer to Ontario Association of Architects cover letter that accompanies this table.
4	I do not support this proposed change for the reason(s) stated to the right.	Refer to Ontario Association of Architects cover letter that accompanies this table.
4	I do not support this proposed change for the reason(s) stated to the right.	Refer to Ontario Association of Architects cover letter that accompanies this table.
4	I do not support this proposed change for the reason(s) stated to the right.	Provide units, and make consistent. Align with ERS. Reference to building size. Refer to Ontario Association of Architects cover letter that accompanies this table.
4	I do not support this proposed change for the reason(s) stated to the right.	Refer to Ontario Association of Architects cover letter that accompanies this table.
4	I do not support this proposed change for the reason(s) stated to the right.	Refer to Ontario Association of Architects cover letter that accompanies this table.
4	I do not support this proposed change for the reason(s) stated to the right.	Refer to Ontario Association of Architects cover letter that accompanies this table.

Proposed Ontario Code Sentence Number	Proposed Ontario Code Article/ Title	Proposed Ontario Code Provision	Link to the National PCF(s)
9.36.1.3.(1)	9.36.1.3. Compliance and Application	(1) Except as provided in Sentences (2) to (5), <i>buildings</i> shall comply with (a) the prescriptive or trade-off requirements in Subsections 9.36.2. to 9.36.4., (b) the performance requirements in Subsection 9.36.5., or (c) the tiered performance requirements in Subsection 9.36.7., or (d) the tiered prescriptive requirements in Subsection 9.36.6., or c(e) the NECB.	https://www.dropbox.com/s/pg5zymdtmvbq0r6/nbc15_divb_09.36.01.03_001611.pdf?dl=0 and https://www.dropbox.com/s/lkss64g6rfelrvi/nbc15_divb_09.36.01.03_001617.pdf?dl=0
9.36.1.3.(2)	9.36.1.3. Compliance and Application	(2) Subsections 9.36.2. to 9.36.4. apply to (a) <i>buildings of residential occupancy to which Part 9 applies</i> , (b) <i>buildings containing business and personal services, mercantile, or low-hazard industrial occupancies to which Part 9 applies whose combined total floor area does not exceed 300 m2, excluding parking garages that serve residential occupancies</i> , and (c) <i>buildings containing a mix of the residential and non-residential occupancies described in Clauses (a) and (b)</i> .	N/A
9.36.1.3.(3)	9.36.1.3. Compliance and Application	(3) Subsection 9.36.5. and 9.36.7. applies apply only to (a) houses with or without a secondary suite, and (b) buildings containing only dwelling units and common spaces whose total floor area does not exceed 20 % of the total floor area of the building.	https://www.dropbox.com/s/lkss64g6rfelrvi/nbc15_divb_09.36.01.03_001617.pdf?dl=0
9.36.1.3.(4)	9.36.1.3. Compliance and Application	(4) Subsection 9.36.6. applies only to buildings of residential occupancy to which Part 9 applies.	https://www.dropbox.com/s/pg5zymdtmvbq0r6/nbc15_divb_09.36.01.03_001611.pdf?dl=0
9.36.1.3.(45)	9.36.1.3. Compliance and Application	(5) Buildings containing non-residential occupancies whose combined total floor area exceeds 300 m2 or medium-hazard industrial occupancies shall comply with the NECB.	N/A
9.36.1.3.(56)	9.36.1.3. Compliance and Application	(6) Buildings or portions of buildings that are not required to be conditioned spaces are exempted from the requirements of this Section.	N/A
9.36.2. Building Envelope			
9.36.2.1.(1)	9.36.2.1. Scope and Application	(1) Except as provided in Sentence (2), this Subsection is concerned with the loss of energy due to heat transfer and air leakage through materials, components and assemblies, including their interfaces, forming part of the <i>building envelope where it separates conditioned space from unconditioned space, the exterior air or the ground</i> .	N/A
9.36.2.1.(2)	9.36.2.1. Scope and Application	(2) The requirements of this Subsection also apply to components of a <i>building envelope assembly that separate a conditioned space from an adjoining storage garage, even if the storage garage is intended to be heated</i> .	N/A
9.36.2.1.(3)	9.36.2.1. Scope and Application	(3) Except for skylight shafts addressed in Sentence 9.36.2.6.(4), for the purpose of this Subsection, wall assemblies inclined less than 60° from the horizontal shall be considered as roof assemblies, and roof assemblies inclined 60° or more from the horizontal shall be considered as wall assemblies.	N/A
9.36.2.1.(4)	9.36.2.1. Scope and Application	(4) The properties, performance and installation of windows, doors and skylights shall also conform to Section 9.7.	N/A
9.36.2.1.(5)	9.36.2.1. Scope and Application	(5) The properties, location and installation of thermal insulation, <i>air barrier systems, vapour barriers, and materials with low air or vapour permeance shall also conform to Section 9.25.</i>	N/A

Rank	Status	Comments - Ontario Association of Architects
4	I do not support this proposed change for the reason(s) stated to the right.	Refer to Ontario Association of Architects cover letter that accompanies this table. We support the tiered model that Ontario has committed to. Clauses (c) and (d) suggest that the tiers are adopted contrary to the other sections.
4	I do not support this proposed change for the reason(s) stated to the right.	Refer to Ontario Association of Architects cover letter that accompanies this table.
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4	I do not support this proposed change for the reason(s) stated to the right.	9.25.2.3.(4) cross reference change to require an insulation type that won't be damaged by water - see comment in section above. Also, refer to Ontario Association of Architects cover letter that accompanies this table.

Proposed Ontario Code Sentence Number	Proposed Ontario Code Article/ Title	Proposed Ontario Code Provision	Link to the National PCF(s)
9.36.2.7.(7)	9.36.2.7. Thermal Characteristics of Fenestration, Doors and Skylights	<u>(7) Vehicular access doors separating a conditioned space from an unconditioned space or the exterior shall have a nominal thermal resistance of not less than 1.1 (m²×K)/W.</u>	N/A
9.36.2.7.(8)	9.36.2.7. Thermal Characteristics of Fenestration, Doors and Skylights	<u>(8) Access hatches separating a conditioned space from an unconditioned space shall be insulated to a nominal thermal resistance of not less than 2.6 (m²×K)/W.</u>	N/A
9.36.2.8.(1)	9.36.2.8. Thermal Characteristics of Building Assemblies Below-Grade or in Contact with the Ground	<u>(1) Except as provided in Sentence (2) and Article 9.36.2.5., the effective thermal resistance of building assemblies that are below-grade or in contact with the ground shall be not less than that shown for the applicable heating-degree day category in (a) Table 9.36.2.8.-A, where the ventilation system does not include heat-recovery equipment, or (b) Table 9.36.2.8.-B, where the ventilation system includes heat-recovery equipment conforming to Article 9.36.3.9.</u>	N/A
9.36.2.8.(2)	9.36.2.8. Thermal Characteristics of Building Assemblies Below-Grade or in Contact with the Ground	<u>(2) Where an entire floor assembly falls into two of the categories listed in Tables 9.36.2.8.-A and 9.36.2.8.-B, the more stringent value shall apply.</u>	N/A
9.36.2.8.(3)	9.36.2.8. Thermal Characteristics of Building Assemblies Below-Grade or in Contact with the Ground	<u>(3) Where the top of a section of foundation wall is on average less than 600 mm above the adjoining ground level, the above-ground portion of that section of wall shall be insulated to the effective thermal resistance required in Table 9.36.2.8.-A or 9.36.2.8.-B.</u>	N/A
9.36.2.8.(4)	9.36.2.8. Thermal Characteristics of Building Assemblies Below-Grade or in Contact with the Ground	<u>(4) Unheated floors-on-ground that are above the frost line and have no embedded heating pipes, cables or ducts shall be insulated to the effective thermal resistance required in Table 9.36.2.8.-A or 9.36.2.8.-B (a) on the exterior of the foundation wall down to the footing, or (b) on the interior of the foundation wall and, as applicable, (i) beneath the slab for a distance not less than 1.2 m horizontally or vertically down from its perimeter with a thermal break along the edge of the slab that meets at least 50% of the required thermal resistance, (ii) on top of the slab for a distance not less than 1.2 m horizontally from its perimeter, or (iii) within the wooden sleepers below the floor for a distance not less than 1.2 m horizontally from its perimeter.</u>	N/A
9.36.2.8.(5)	9.36.2.8. Thermal Characteristics of Building Assemblies Below-Grade or in Contact with the Ground	<u>(5) Except as provided in Sentence (6), floors-on-ground with embedded heating ducts, cables or pipes shall be insulated to the effective thermal resistance required in Table 9.36.2.8.-A or 9.36.2.8.-B under their full bottom surface including the edges.</u>	N/A
9.36.2.8.(6)	9.36.2.8. Thermal Characteristics of Building Assemblies Below-Grade or in Contact with the Ground	<u>(6) Where only a portion of a floor-on-ground has embedded heating ducts, cables or pipes, that heated portion shall be insulated to the effective thermal resistance required in Table 9.36.2.8.-A or 9.36.2.8.-B under its full bottom surface to 1.2 m beyond its perimeter including exterior edges if applicable.</u>	N/A
9.36.2.8.(7)	9.36.2.8. Thermal Characteristics of Building Assemblies Below-Grade or in Contact with the Ground	<u>(7) In addition to the requirements stated in Sentences (5) and (6), heated floors-on-ground shall be insulated to the effective thermal resistance required in Table 9.36.2.8.-A or 9.36.2.8.-B vertically (a) around their perimeter, or (b) on the outside of the foundation wall, extending down to the level of the bottom of the floor.</u>	N/A
9.36.2.8.(8)	9.36.2.8. Thermal Characteristics of Building Assemblies Below-Grade or in Contact with the Ground	<u>(8) Floors on permafrost shall be insulated to the effective thermal resistance required in Table 9.36.2.8.-A or 9.36.2.8.-B under the entire slab and around all edges, and under the integral perimeter footing.</u>	N/A
9.36.2.8.(9)	9.36.2.8. Thermal Characteristics of Building Assemblies Below-Grade or in Contact with the Ground	<u>(9) Slabs-on-grade with an integral perimeter footing shall (a) be insulated to the effective thermal resistance required in Table 9.36.2.8.-A or 9.36.2.8.-B under the entire slab and around all edges, but not under the integral perimeter footing, and (b) be constructed with skirt insulation having the same effective thermal resistance as the insulation installed under the slab.</u>	N/A

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Proposed Ontario Code Sentence Number	Proposed Ontario Code Article/ Title	Proposed Ontario Code Provision	Link to the National PCF(s)
9.36.5.3.(3)	9.36.5.3. Compliance	<u>(3) In establishing the house energy target, <i>building</i> components, systems and assemblies shall be accounted for in accordance with the prescriptive requirements of Subsections 9.36.2. to 9.36.4. for the climate zone under consideration.</u>	N/A
9.36.5.3.(4)	9.36.5.3. Compliance	<u>(4) In establishing the annual energy consumption, <i>building</i> components, systems and assemblies that are addressed in the scope of the prescriptive requirements of Subsections 9.36.2. to 9.36.4. shall be accounted for the climate zone under consideration.</u>	N/A
9.36.5.3.(5)	9.36.5.3. Compliance	<u>(5) Where the construction techniques or <i>building</i> components, systems or assemblies used are more energy-efficient than those prescribed by the prescriptive requirements, the performance compliance calculations are permitted to take this increased performance level into account in the determination of the annual energy consumption, provided it can be quantified and is not dependent on occupant interaction.</u>	N/A
9.36.5.3.(6)	9.36.5.3. Compliance	<u>(6) Both the proposed and reference houses shall be modeled using the same climatic data, <i>soil</i> conditions, operating schedules in Article 9.36.5.4. and temperature set-points.</u>	N/A
9.36.5.4.(1)	9.36.5.4. Calculation Methods	<u>(1) Except as provided in Sentence (2), the energy model calculations shall account for the annual energy consumption of systems and equipment required for (a) space heating, (b) ventilation, (c) service water heating, and (d) where installed, space cooling.</u>	N/A
9.36.5.4.(2)	9.36.5.4. Calculation Methods	<u>(2) Redundant or back-up equipment for the systems and equipment listed in Sentence (1) is permitted to be excluded from the energy model, provided it is equipped with controls and is not required to meet the space-conditioning load of the house.</u>	N/A
9.36.5.4.(3)	9.36.5.4. Calculation Methods	<u>(3) The schedules used in the energy model shall (a) be based on a time interval not greater than one hour, where the energy model evaluates the performance of the house over hourly intervals, or (b) be applied in an hourly-bin model then averaged, where the energy model does not evaluate the performance of the house over hourly intervals.</u>	N/A
9.36.5.4.(4)	9.36.5.4. Calculation Methods	<u>(4) The energy model calculations shall account for the loads due to heat gains from occupants, lighting and miscellaneous equipment, which shall be fixed for every day of the year, by (a) following the schedule provided in Table 9.36.5.4., and (b) increasing the loads for each hour by 3.58 W per square metre of floor area in common spaces, if applicable.</u>	https://www.dropbox.com/s/714r4oioqy73mdk/Proposed_Change_1608.pdf?dl=0
9.36.5.4.(5)	9.36.5.4. Calculation Methods	<u>(5) The energy model calculations shall account for the following space-heating temperature set-points: (a) in all living spaces above the <i>basement</i>, (b) 19°C in <i>basements</i> and common spaces, and (c) 15°C in crawl spaces intended to be <i>conditioned spaces</i>.</u>	https://www.dropbox.com/s/714r4oioqy73mdk/Proposed_Change_1608.pdf?dl=0
9.36.5.4.(6)	9.36.5.4. Calculation Methods	<u>(6) The energy model calculations shall account for a space-cooling temperature set-point of 25°C in all <i>conditioned spaces</i> served by the cooling system.</u>	N/A
9.36.5.4.(7)	9.36.5.4. Calculation Methods	<u>(7) The energy model calculations shall account for a thermostatic control that responds to fluctuations of $\pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$ from the temperature set-point.</u>	N/A
9.36.5.4.(8)	9.36.5.4. Calculation Methods	<u>(8) If a computer program is used to carry out the compliance calculations, the calculation methods employed in the energy model shall (a) be used for both the reference and proposed houses, and (b) be tested in accordance with ANSI/ASHRAE 140, "Standard Method of Test for the Evaluation of Building Energy Analysis Computer Programs," with variations in the computer program from the range recommended</u>	N/A

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4	I do not support this proposed change for the reason(s) stated to the right.	Align with ERS measurements. Refer to Ontario Association of Architects cover letter that accompanies this table.
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Proposed Ontario Code Sentence Number	Proposed Ontario Code Article/ Title	Proposed Ontario Code Provision	Link to the National PCF(s)
9.36.5.7.(9)	9.36.5.7. HVAC System Calculations	<u>(9) The energy model calculations shall account for the heat-recovery efficiency of heat-recovery ventilators using a minimum of 2 data test points derived from testing in accordance with Clause 9.36.3.9.(3)(a) or (b), as applicable.</u>	N/A
9.36.5.8.(1)	9.36.5.8. Service Water Heating System Calculations	<u>(1) The energy model calculations shall account for the energy consumption of all service water heating systems.</u>	N/A
9.36.5.8.(2)	9.36.5.8. Service Water Heating System Calculations	<u>(2) The performance requirements stated in Table 9.36.4.2. shall be used in the energy model calculations.</u>	N/A
9.36.5.8.(3)	9.36.5.8. Service Water Heating System Calculations	<u>(3) Where piping or standby losses are accounted for in the energy model calculations, they shall be included for both the proposed and reference houses, including their effect on space heating and cooling, and calculated the same way for both houses.</u>	N/A
9.36.5.8.(4)	9.36.5.8. Service Water Heating System Calculations	<u>(4) The energy model calculations shall use a supply cold water temperature, in °C, that is (a) equal to $-0.002 (HDD) + 20.3$, where $HDD < 7\ 999$, (b) equal to 4.3, where $HDD \geq 8\ 000$, or (c) determined based on the ground and air temperatures in the climatic data file.</u>	N/A
9.36.5.8.(5)	9.36.5.8. Service Water Heating System Calculations	<u>(5) Except as provided in Sentence (8), the energy model calculations shall use a service water delivery temperature of 55°C.</u>	https://www.dropbox.com/s/714r4oioqy73mdk/Proposed_Change_1608.pdf?dl=0
9.36.5.8.(6)	9.36.5.8. Service Water Heating System Calculations	<u>(6) For service hot water usage other than for showering, the energy model calculations shall take into account the service water heating use schedule presented in Table 9.36.5.8. using a load of (a) 97 L/day for houses without a secondary suite, or (b) 65 L/day for each dwelling unit in residential buildings with two or more dwelling units.</u>	https://www.dropbox.com/s/714r4oioqy73mdk/Proposed_Change_1608.pdf?dl=0
9.36.5.8.(7)	9.36.5.8. Service Water Heating System Calculations	<u>(7) The energy model calculations shall take into account daily service hot water usage for showering (a) at 7 a.m. for 15 mins for houses without a secondary suite, or (b) at 7 a.m. for 10 mins for each dwelling unit in residential buildings with two or more dwelling units.</u>	N/A
9.36.5.8.(8)	9.36.5.8. Service Water Heating System Calculations	<u>(8) The energy model shall set the service water delivery temperature for showering to 41°C at the shower head, with a flow rate of 7.6 L/min.</u>	N/A
9.36.5.9.(1)	9.36.5.9. General Requirements for Modeling the Proposed House	<u>(1) Except where permitted by Articles 9.36.5.10. to 9.36.5.12., the energy model calculations for the proposed house shall be consistent with the proposed construction specifications for that house with regard to (a) fenestration and opaque building envelope assembly type, effective thermal resistance and areas, (b) HVAC system types and capacities, and (c) service water heating system types and capacities.</u>	N/A
9.36.5.10.(1)	9.36.5.10. Modeling Building Envelope of Proposed House	<u>(1) Except as provided in Sentences (2) and (3), the energy model calculations for the proposed house shall be consistent with the proposed construction specifications for that house with regard to (a) the area of the above-ground portion of foundation walls, (b) the effective thermal resistance of above-ground walls, ceilings below attics, roof assemblies and rim joists, (c) the maximum overall thermal transmittance of doors, as calculated in accordance with Sentence 9.36.2.2.(3), (d) the effective thermal resistance of below-ground walls and slabs-on-ground, (e) exterior walls, roof-ceiling assembly, doors, walls, exposed floors, and floors in contact with the ground, (f) distribution, orientation and area of fenestration and doors, as calculated in accordance with Article 9.36.2.3., (g) solar heat gain coefficient and overall thermal transmittance of fenestration, as calculated in accordance with Sentence 9.36.2.2.(3), (h) configuration of insulation in assemblies in contact with the ground, and (i) effective thermal resistance of foundation walls.</u>	N/A

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Proposed Ontario Code Sentence Number	Proposed Ontario Code Article/ Title	Proposed Ontario Code Provision	Link to the National PCF(s)
9.36.8.4.(4)	9.36.8.4. Determination of Airtightness Level	(4) Where the unguarded method is used to determine the airtightness of an attached zone, the Airtightness Level shall be determined by complying with one of the corresponding airtightness values stipulated in Table 9.36.8.4.-B, provided the zone is tested independently.	https://www.dropbox.com/s/r7f743ddjpaoyqt/nbc15_divb_09.36_001610.pdf?dl=0

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Subject: FW: TIME SENSITIVE: Information related to your comments on Energy Efficiency from Ontario's Building Code - Winter 2022 Consultation

Attachments: Extract of Outstanding Questions from Energy Efficiency Consultation Session March 8 2022.pdf

Importance: High

From: Building Code Consultation (MMAH) <BuildingCode.Consultation@ontario.ca>
Sent: October 4, 2022 10:55 AM
To: Building Code Consultation (MMAH) <BuildingCode.Consultation@ontario.ca>
Subject: TIME SENSITIVE: Information related to your comments on Energy Efficiency from Ontario's Building Code - Winter 2022 Consultation
Importance: High

Good Morning,

We hope this email finds you well.

Following the engagement session on energy efficiency changes in March, and as part of the feedback on the proposed changes for the next edition of Ontario's Building Code, we received several new proposals. The proposals were related to changes that were either not included in National's Construction Codes, or changes that would alter National Code requirements to a degree that would require committee reviews.

By signing the Reconciliation Agreement on Construction Codes in August 2020, Ontario formally committed to increasing harmonization and reducing variations between Ontario's Building Code and the National Construction Codes. These efforts also include working with other provinces, territories, and the federal government to streamline the code development process. As such, it is increasingly important that any new code change requests be made to the National Research Council (NRC) at the following link: <https://nrc.canada.ca/en/certifications-evaluations-standards/codes-canada/codes-development-process/request-code-change>.

Further to the related explanation in the attached extract of the Q&A document sent on March 8, 2022, new code change requests need to be prepared as code change proposals and vetted through NRC's code development system. **NRC is currently working on the development of prescriptive requirements for energy efficiency**, therefore any proposals submitted to National at this point may be considered and approved as part of this process which would enable **earlier** cross-country **adoption** of the proposed provisions.

You are strongly encouraged to submit your proposal to NRC at your earliest convenience.

Please contact the Building and Development Branch at Codeinfo@ontario.ca should you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your ongoing understanding and collaboration.

Building and Development Branch
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

777 Bay Street 12th Floor | M7A 2J3
Toronto, ON

The March 8, 2022, letter included the following information:

“Outstanding Questions from Winter 2022 Consultation on the Next Edition of Ontario's Building Code: Energy Efficiency

1. General questions related to requesting material changes to the National requirements:

Answer: With respect to requests related to making changes to National’s requirements, (i.e., add/ remove/alter some sections), Ontario has signed the Reconciliation Agreement and is committed to further harmonizing with the National Construction Codes. The agreement asks that provinces reduce the number of variations. During this phase of consultation, Ontario is focusing on the adoption of national content only. New or different proposals would be addressed in a separate consultation in coordination with National. The requests to change National requirements will need to be prepared as code change proposals and vetted through National’s code development system. We encourage everyone wishing to submit a Code change request to share their proposals with the National Research Council for their early consideration. Work is in progress by the National Standing Committee on Energy Efficiency, which includes the development of the final prescriptive tiers. Ontario supports further development of the prescriptive tier requirements at the National level as a priority and finalization in a timely manner, without waiting for their next edition. As a result, the provinces will have clearer options to obtain energy conservation points in the prescriptive path.

2.“